ipad in Education deployment and management technical perspective

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# Introduction

With school purchasing multiple iPads for use as a learning tool. The following is a guide to managing and deploying multiple iPads in an educational setting. Deploy iPads in an education environment requires three main components: the iPads, syncing station (apple or windows machine) and iTunes

 

# iTunes

iPads and iTunes need to work hand in hand. iTunes can be installed on either a computer running Apple or Windows operating system.

* All new iPads need to be activated in iTunes before they can be used
* Updating, syncing and backup of iPads need to occur in iTunes.
* When setting up an iTunes account don’t use anyone personal account create a school specific unique account.
  + Use the school email address, that way auditors and office staff can monitor purchases etc.
  + This account **should not** be created by going to the iTunes store and selecting create new account, this method requires a credit card.
  + You can easily set up an account without using a credit card or gift card (for the purpose of getting your deployment going) by "buying" a free app... that way, you can choose as your payment method "none" which does not appear if you set up an account in iTunes at the store as you might imagine. Attempt to "purchase" a free app, then iTunes will prompt you to sign in, set up a new account, set your purchasing method to "none" (like you have no credit card nor gift card), and then you must verify you set up the account With iTunes ready to go.
* iTunes can only legally sync purchased apps to 1 device

# iPad

* When you have multiple devices thought needs to be put into a naming scheme for each device. The CEO standard for naming is school dest number > device id>school unique>number eg. 6776ipad001, the name can be no longer than 15 characters.
* Build a master device (image) , set up exactly as you would like each device setup.
  + Unlike the iPhone or iPod the iPad does not support folders, how every you can have as many screens as you like each screen may act as a folder.
  + Enable restrictions
    - Set content settings so inappropriate apps can not be viewed
    - In-app purchases can not be done
    - Rating set to PG
* Imaging workflow

Create Master Device

Backup Master Device in iTunes

(right click device name on left pane)

clone backup master image onto other devices using the ‘restore’ functionality

* Updating the iPad to 4.2 (latest operating system). Don’t download each time use update file.
* Lock screen rotation (optional)

# syncing station

* An unlimited number of iPads can be synced to one syncing station.
* Use a USB hub to sync multiple devices at one time. (literature indicates a maximum of 20 on daisy chained USB hubs)
* Consider using Drop box on the syncing station (and maybe on Teacher machines to move documents easily to iPads)

**Other Items**

* Screen protectors
* Cases
* http://iphoneapplicationlist.com/apps/education/